

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

In our daily life, communication is important. We communicate with other people by having conversations with them. Through conversations, we can share our ideas and express our feelings. When engaging in a conversation, a speaker expects a hearer to interpret his/her utterances as the speaker intended in order to make the conversation run smoothly.

There are two ways for a speaker to express his/her ideas through his/her utterances: directly and indirectly. In the first way, the speaker usually states his/her utterances directly to the hearer, which is also called explicature. Explicature means the explicit utterance intended by the speaker without generating an implicature. Thus, the hearer will immediately know the meaning of the utterances. However, in the second way, the speaker sometimes has an implied meaning within his/her utterances, also called implicature. Implicature means the speaker expects the hearer to understand what the speaker intends although the message is not explicit. (Mey 371)

The way people communicate with others depends on the social relationship between the speaker and the hearer. For instance, a child will use polite utterances when he/she talks to his/her parents. It will be different if he/she talks to his/her friends. The other factors are age and status. These factors can also influence the way people communicate with others. For example, it will be different if someone talks to his/her boss compared to his/her subordinate.

Sometimes people break the rule of level of politeness within their communication. From the example above, we know that the social relationship, age, and status influence the way people communicate. In other cases, unconsciously people violate the rule. For example, a subordinate makes an impolite utterance to his boss to show his/her disappointment. There are different kinds of reactions that the boss will give to his subordinate utterances. The boss could probably be angry, do nothing or fail to understand why the subordinate uses an impolite utterance.

When engaging in a conversation, we have to use the appropriate utterance to express ideas and our feelings, because when we use inappropriate utterances, the hearer will get the wrong understanding, this will cause many kinds of reactions from the hearer. The implied meaning can be successfully understood if the awareness of the hearer is high. However, not all the hearers are aware of the implied meaning. As a result, there will be misunderstanding between the speaker and the hearer that might cause a tense atmosphere between to people.

Therefore, I would like to analyze this language phenomenon in linguistics by applying it in the TV series entitled Grey's Anatomy. The topic of my thesis is *the emergence of a tense atmosphere due to the miscalculation of weightiness of FTA in Grey's Anatomy*. I choose this topic because in Grey's Anatomy the close

relationship and status between doctors or between doctors and patients make the speaker miscalculate the weightiness. Thus, the significance of my topic is to make people aware that they must be cautious when choosing or calculating a certain politeness strategy so as not to result in a tense atmosphere. Besides, it can also build the sensitivity of the hearer towards the speaker's utterances, so that the hearer will be more aware of the speaker's utterances, in order to minimize the threatening to other's face. This topic is close to our daily life. That is why I am interested in it. Moreover, this topic is also interesting to analyze because we are engaged in conversations everyday.

In Grey's Anatomy TV series, the source of my data, the tense atmosphere found in this film makes it interesting to analyze. I take the data from Grey's Anatomy TV series because I find a number of utterances that contain a miscalculation of Rate of Imposition, Distance and Power in the way the characters communicate with one another. In addition, the effects of the conflict on each character are not the same. In this film, the background status can also influence the way people communicate. In analyzing Grey's Anatomy TV series, I use politeness and interaction as the approach.

Grey's Anatomy is a drama TV show about several doctors who work in Seattle Grace Hospital. This movie tells about how the doctors handle patients, including conflicts. This movie also shows the relationship among the three different levels of doctor in the hospital: Chief is the highest position, in the second position is a resident (a senior doctor), and the lowest is an intern (a fresh graduate doctor). They often miscalculate Rate of Imposition, Distance and Power when they talk, as a result of which the tense atmosphere occurs.

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1.2 Statement of the Problem

There are four problems that I am going to discuss:

1. What type of Politeness Strategy does the speaker use?
2. Why does the speaker apply an inappropriate Politeness Strategy?
3. What type of Politeness Strategy does the hearer think it is appropriate for the speaker to use?
4. How does the miscalculation of the Politeness Strategy lead to the tense atmosphere of the story?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The purpose of doing the analysis is:

1. To know the type of Politeness Strategy the speaker uses.
2. To know the reason why the speaker applies an inappropriate Politeness Strategy.
3. To know the type of Politeness Strategy that the hearer thinks it is appropriate for the speaker to use.
4. To know how the miscalculation of the Politeness Strategy leads to the tense atmosphere of the story.

1.4 Methods of Research

In conducting the research, the first thing I do is watch the TV drama series called Grey's Anatomy. Next, I collect and select the speech that contains the

inappropriate use of Politeness Strategy. After that, I analyze and classify them based on the types of Politeness Strategies. At last, I write the research report.

1.5 Organization of the Thesis

There are four chapters in my thesis. In Chapter One, there are five parts: the Background of the Study, Statement of the Problem, Purpose of the Study, Method of Research, and Organization of the Thesis. Chapter Two contains the theories that I use, which are Pragmatics and also Politeness and Interaction. In Chapter Three, I discuss the data. The comments of my data are discussed in chapter four. Finally I end my thesis with the Bibliography and Appendix.